

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5987
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2003
JOINT INSPECTION OF MITHI NADI
DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a joint visit/inspection of Mithi Nadi, Mumbai has been conducted by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board during April, 2003;
- (b) if so, whether severe violation and encroachments have been observed during the joint visit;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Environment activists and local Member of Parliament have lodged complaints against the pollution and encroachments;
- (e) if so, the details thereof indicating the impact of such encroachments and pollution; and
- (f) the action taken by the Government against the industrial units, encroachers etc. involved in the matter?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JU DEV)

- (a) A team of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board (MSPCB) inspected Mithi Nadi at Mumbai on March 4th - 5th, 2003.
- (b) & (c) It has been observed that nearly 3000 unauthorized cottage scale units are operating along the river and discharging wastewater into the river. Besides this, a population of about 1.2 lakh is staying in the hutments along the river and it is estimated that about 5 million litres per day (mld) of sewage is discharged into the river from this source.
- (d) & (e) Complaint about the pollution in Mithi Nadi has been raised by local Member of Parliament. It has been stated in the complaint that Mithi Nadi has become a gutter-Nullah. It has been further pointed out that all the nearby industries are throwing their garbage into the river. In addition, wastewater of some areas of the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai is also discharged into this river through drains. As a result, the river has become over polluted.
- (f) State Pollution Control Board has been asked to take necessary action in this matter.